

COUNTY CONVENTION

Enthusiastic Meeting of the Democrats

The Democrats of Pocahontas County held their convention at Marlinton in the Court House Saturday and a very harmonious, enthusiastic meeting ensued, and a good, safe strong ticket was put in the field.

The meeting was called to order by County Chairman T. S. McNeel, who named E. I. Holt chairman and Calvin W. Price secretary. This organization was made permanent and the following order of business was adopted:

1. Permanent organization to be effected.
2. Appointment of committee on resolutions.
3. Report of district delegations.
4. Nomination of officers as follows:
 - House of Representatives—Member of County Court Superintendent of free schools
5. Report of committee on Resolutions.
6. Apportionment of meeting of County Executive Committee to be held upon adjournment of convention.
7. Adjournment.

On motion, it was decided to make every Democratic voter present a member of the convention, and that the vote should be taken by district. Every district had a large delegation, except Huntersville, which was ably represented by three prominent citizens.

The voters were segregated according to district and the ballot taken by district.

The chair appointed Andrew Price, Edray, Wm. Siple, Greenbank, H. Lee White, Huntersville, and F. R. Hill, Levels, as a committee on resolutions.

All the nominations were made by acclamation, and were as follows:

- For House of Delegates, D. L. Barlow, of Edray District.
- For Prosecuting Attorney, F. R. Hill, Levels District.
- For Member County Court, W. H. Hill, Greenbank District.
- For County Superintendent of Schools, J. B. Grimes, Levels District.

The following resolutions were adopted:

THE DEMOCRATS OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, West Virginia, in Convention assembled at the County Court House, on the 15th day of September, 1906, hereby re-affirm their allegiance to the Party, and affirm the following resolutions:

FIRST:—That we endorse the fight that Wm. Jennings Bryan is making at this period of dishonesty, hypocrisy, political corruption and cowardly surrender of principle to expediency, wherever Republicanism holds sway, and that we regard him as the finest citizen to rescue our Government from the hands of the special interests and to restore it to the people.

SECOND:—That the interests of this State demand that we be represented in the United States Senate by either Democrats or Republicans whose reputation shall be free from the imputation that they belong to a combination to promote the interest of wealth against the rights of the common people.

THIRD:—That we recommend the able and efficient work in the State Senate of our two representatives from this District, the Hon. B. F. Kidd, and the Hon. Jake Fisher; and that we pledge to the Hon. R. F. Kidd, who is now standing for re-election, our hearty support.

FOURTH:—That we call the attention of the voting public to the fact that the tax rate of Pocahontas County, under the continuous Democratic Administration, has been continually the lowest of any county in the State, and that the business affairs of this county have been most economically managed, so much so as to call for the voluntary commendation of the Republican State Administration.

FIFTH:—We are most enthusiastically opposed to the illicit sale of intoxicants in this county and we charge the men who have been engaged in this illicit business of forming ramifications in the interest of the Republican party, and in causing great numbers of laboring men to leave their work in the woods and to gather at the polls on election day under the promise of "free drinks" and the promise of more, in case the republican majority was secured, and we defy the Republican party to name one of the men engaged in the illicit sale of whiskey who votes the Democratic ticket, but we charge that in every case where such men who have been Democrats, engage in such business that they immediately become Republicans, and seek to change the politics of this County, giving as their reason, that the Democratic Administration will not grant liquor license, and we urge every member of the Republican party, who is opposed to the sale of intoxicants in this county, to investigate the truth of this charge.

SIXTH:—We hereby endorse the Democratic ticket nominated by this Convention and promise the candidate our hearty and undivided support at the polls at the next general election.

RESOLVED: That a copy of these resolutions be furnished to the "Marlinton Messenger," "Pocahontas Times" and the "Charleston Gazette."

H. LEE WHITE, Chairman.
Wm. M. SIPLE, Secretary.

The Executive Committee met immediately after the convention. The new committee is composed as follows:

Edray—Andrew Price, J. J. Coyner, S. S. Varner, T. S. McNeel.
Greenbank—W. J. Yeager, E. I. Holt, J. B. Grimes, C. D. Burns.
Huntersville—B. Lee White, I. B. Moore, J. C. Harper, W. H. Grose.
Levels—E. I. Holt, Dr. McNeel, T. A. Bruffey, A. C. Young.
T. S. McNeel was re-elected chairman and T. A. Bruffey elected secretary.

A more representative number of citizens nor more enthusiastic body Democrats would be hard to find. They were there to uphold principles they knew to be the best for our country's welfare, and ready to condemn in any party policies which legislature for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many.

Nominating speeches were made by Andrew Price, for D. L. Barlow and J. B. Grimes; by T. S. McNeel and E. I. Holt for F. R. Hill; by W. M. Siple for W. H. Hill.

Each of the nominees, except Mr. Hill who was absent, responded to the honor which had been conferred upon them.

F. R. Hill reiterated his stand against the whiskey traffic. He believes the present laws sufficient to wipe out this crying evil if properly enforced, and pledged himself to carry out the laws to the letter if elected. Such words from him do not come for effect. His stand has ever been against the whiskey traffic, illicit and otherwise, being a total abstainer and thoroughgoing adherent to the cause of temperance. He said if elected he would prosecute the violators of the law to the limit, but would persecute no one.

Hon. J. B. Grimes took occasion to confess his Democracy, though most of his time was taken up in discussing the needs of the schools of this county, which his experience as county superintendent has given him opportunity to know. He has been thoroughly efficient and faithful officer, and performed his duties acceptably to all. We want him returned to this office not alone because he is an honest, competent officer who has the good of his chosen calling at heart.

D. L. Barlow's address can well

GRAZES

Of Boarding School Misses

Having been connected with boarding schools a good many years in the earlier period of my life, I know considerable of them. The daily routine of instruction, study &c, I will not here recount, that is taken for granted and need less to repeat. Lately, I have been retracing the past and felt amused, as I did at the time, when witnessing peculiar phases of the boarding schools I knew, in the way of recreation sought out by the young people or ludicrous actions contagious from one to the other very much as physical maladies are contracted. When pupils are with teachers day in and out, thro' months of confinement, there is time and opportunity to see many curious ways of humanity. The trouble with me in transcribing is what to state for I could write a volume of experience as scholar myself for years at a boarding school in Southern Virginia and then for a long time teacher there and afterward for a short while at Lexington, Virginia.

Back in the fifties spiritualism, table rapping and the like being in vogue, our girls must fairly try their hand at it, and well I remember their toiling to carry various tables out of the school house, on Sunday after their regular S. S. instruction was over by which they surely expected to discover supernatural matters related to themselves. On Sunday if their S. S. duties were attended, the girls were not hindered from smusing themselves so long as they kept quiet and did not trouble the household. The school house was a refuge where no one disturbed them so long as they kept the peace.

Spirit rapping had its day and the young people were none the wiser. The spirits would not speak for them and the tables would not move, so 'twas given up for a bad job, and well if older heads would do the same, that is the leads given to spiritualism and the occult sciences.

Then in the school sprung up the doll craze that spread like wild fire. If the victims were only small children of whom we had few as it was a young ladie's Seminary, it had not been strange. Orders went to Petersburg which was 'townt' to us and the nearest market. I mean Petersburg on the Appomattox, forty miles. By the scores and forthwith, dolls of all sizes and grades of excellence reached Dr. Mason's school and were sorted out to the buyers. On Saturday, our "legal holiday" it was an interesting and amusing sight to see nearly all the pupils busy in the lodging rooms sewing for the numerous family of dolls. The craze, which lasted no longer than usual crazes was not without its benefit. The practice of fine sewing, and many of the girls excelled in it, was an excellent occupation. That was not the day of sewing machines in every house hold—at that time I knew of but one sewing machine in the county, in our part at least, and it was not in the school. Pretty soon when the forty or more dolls could boast of a toilet in various degrees of nicety, the craze was over. The dolls suddenly disappeared; they were not broken for up to the time of disappearance they were tenderly cared for; relegated probably to the depths of trunks or sent home to younger sisters, certainly we saw them no more.

I write of a period just before the Civil War. At that time astronomers predicted the near approach of such a mighty Comet for size of nucleus and length of coma as might endanger our earth. The papers of course spoke much of the coming comet, and our girls talked of it among themselves until the heavenly visitant at hand alarmed their young imaginations and the world to them, was already beginning to kindle into flames from the long flaring comet. One day when classes were quietly progressing in the school room, a sudden panic arose; such a scrambling of feet, screaming of voices, hurrying, scurrying exclamations of "the comet, the comet!" "A snake!" "some one dead!" &c, &c. The great black board that always stood in the middle of the floor dividing the two teachers' classes was knocked over, scores of girls knocked down, my lead pencil went into my shoe, my only mishap, and all was bedlam or worse. No one knew the cause until the panic had subsided and then—why a pupil had started, and thrown the book. The great comet came and did no harm. It was indeed immense as all will testify who saw the flaming meteor, spreading out over half the length of the heavens. It was strange, this striking appearance of nightly glory above us and just before the awful war that some of us lived thro'.

I almost forbear to mention the whispered rumors we had at long intervals of negro insurrection, for I believe these rumors had not the least foundation. Yet it was far from a pleasant subject of thought, and insurrections had been. On those plantations the blacks outnumbered the whites, three to one, and I need not add that slavery was then going on, tho' the time drew near for its passing. When we recall the Southampton massacre, it is true, that we lived on the side crust of a mighty smouldering volcano. I have taught girls whose mothers passed through the awful experience of the Southampton days when Nat Turner urged their slaves to kill and leave not one. We ought to be very thankful that slavery was abolished, tho' we must mourn over the four bloody years that were required. Slavery has been done away with in other countries, but only with blood in our own land.

Those were the days of hoop skirts for ladies, certainly an abominable and inconvenient custom; of course some girls must outvie the others in size of skirts and it was amusing to watch the frantic maneuvers to compress as much as possible in classes where five feet of room could not be allowed to one would-be fashionable young lady. The progressive negroes, maids of all work, in their Sunday attire were wont to search the woods for suitable grape-vines to manufacture their hoop-skirts. In the race of fashion, the poor whether white or black keep up as well as they can and necessity is often the mother of invention.

I reserve to the finale a craze that was the most amusing and singular that I ever witnessed among boarding school girls. I was teaching at the Ann Smith Academy in Lexington Va., having gone there in a pleasant and comfortable manner, dishing "the war," traveling by packet boat the first experience of that locomotion I ever had and in fact the last save for a short tow-path journey when the canal had been partly destroyed in the controversy of war. I reached Lexington safely; but when my work was finished there I could not leave so easily we were in fact prisoners with no exit available. A military raid of the times had made the trouble end with great difficulty and some danger I reached my home in the lower country, traveling the no great distance by hack, walking, a country dray, canal, stopping over two nights, railroad and walking again; and when my beloved father espied me below our hill and hastened down to welcome me home again, I felt like a prodigal daughter after the year's experience.

But that craze I promised to relate. 'Twas this. One young lady at the Lexington school, noticing a few insignificant pimples on her face, sought medical advice and was treated mildly with Iodine. Forthwith, like a contagious complaint, other young ladies discovered maldates real or imagined, and treated themselves largely to Iodine which could readily be obtained at the town drug store. Fancy the appearance of pretty girls disfigured thus. They came to their classes as usual, one I remember in particular, a tall dignified figure, her face copiously painted with the dark pigment and helped out by a green veil to partly screen her face, the eyes peering from under the pro-tem turban. Teaching the class I arose to my duty, for in those days I loved to teach standing—I seemed to get hearer my work and my pupils. The scene was too much for me; the unfamiliar faces raised to mine, I could not but laugh and was at length noted from him who like myself retained a white skin, not seeking to be disguised as red and painted, streaked Indian princesses. The fun was on our side not theirs, and refuge to their rooms with strenuous effort of washing, rubbing, chemicals in a short time restored the transient crazes to former selves.

A. L. P.

NEVER NEVER LAND

The North Pole's Many Very Curious Aspects.

Let me attempt to answer the question, "What is the North Pole?" And in doing so I imagine, writes Commander Peary in the Youth's Companion; that I shall give some information that will be new, even to the oldest and best informed of my readers. The North Pole is the precise centre of the Northern Hemisphere, the hemispherical pivot of population, of civilization. It is the point where the axis of the earth cuts its surface. It is the spot where there is no longitude, no time, no north or east, no west—only South. It is the place where every wind that blows is a south wind.

It is the place where there is but one night and one day in every year; where two steps only separate astronomical noon from astronomical midnight.

It is the spot from which all the heavenly bodies appear to move in horizontal courses and a star just visible above the horizon never sets, but circles forever, just gazing the horizon.

More than this, the North Pole is the last geographical prize which the world has to offer to adventurous man, the prize for which the best men of the arctic, most unlightened, most adventurous nations of the earth have been struggling unsuccessfully for nearly four centuries.

Perhaps I should say a word or two in explanation of my statement that there is no time at the North Pole.

What is the point from which estimate time here? It is noon, that is, meridian where we are, of some fixed meridian that has been selected. At the pole there are no meridians, or rather, all the meridians of the globe are gathered in one point, so there is no starting point for time as we estimate it here.

Another point which should be made clear, in one which a great many people have an incorrect idea. That is that the North Pole—the geographical pole—is an entirely different spot from the magnetic pole—the centre of magnetic attraction, where the compass is useful. The one is some 1,600 miles south of the true North Pole, being located on or near the Peninsula of Boothia Felix, the most northerly mainland of North America, about on the meridian of Galveston.

At the North Pole the compass with the proper connections for variation is as trustworthy as in other portions of the earth's surface. The four things which, it may be said, go to form the conception of the Arctic region in the minds of most people, are the cold, the darkness, the silence and hunger. Almost invariably the first questions asked me by strangers are in regard to these four things, and the questions are usually in the order given above.

West Virginia Politics

West Virginia politics are always dramatic, and the situation is usually spectacular. The State has been made Republican by industrial conditions. The population except in the Eastern panhandle, has never been affiliated with the South, either in interest or in sympathy. When General Lee marched into the mountains of what is now West Virginia, in the first year of the war, he was made to feel that he was in the "enemy's country." But after the war was over the State became Democratic and remained so down to Cleveland's second election, in 1892. Since then it has been almost as reliably Republican as Vermont. A great coal-mining industry grew and thousands of men came into the State to work in the mines. Each one added a vote to the Republican party and the mine-owners were not slow to add to the bituminous coal which is maintained by that party. Since 1896, ten years ago, the great railroad corporations which operate lines in the State, have, according to the general belief, afforded powerful aid to the Republican party. Wheeling is a city of "protected" industries and naturally contributes a large vote to the party of protection, and in addition an oil interest, which is also a beneficiary of the Republican tariff policy, has grown to considerable proportions. In the mountains and valleys small farmers and grazers are still under the influence of the old Union sentiment of the last generation. It is to the credit of the West Virginia Democrats that they never despair. After each defeat they go into another campaign as if nothing had happened and victory was in sight. This year they are trying to elect their party candidates to Congress, and it is hoped by them that they will have the aid of Senator Tillman on the stump. If that gentleman accepts the urgent invitation, or rather supplication, to campaign in West Virginia, the discussion will be interesting. It seems that when the Railroad Rate bill was pending in Congress Governor Dawson, a Republican, wrote to Senator Tillman upon the bill, rather than to either of his own Senators, Scott and Elkins. This it is urged by the Democrats, proves that Governor Dawson had no faith in the loyalty of the West Virginia Republican Senators to that measure, and this letter is to be exploited on the stump.

One of the recent achievements of the Republican party in West Virginia has been to increase enormously taxation upon the railroads. The companies appealed to the court for relief, but the action of the State Board of Public Works in increasing the assessment of the railroads has put the burden of the State and county governments largely upon the corporations and has made the tax bill of the farmer and the household exceedingly small in comparison with its former proportions. For this the Republicans expect the support of those who have been benefited. But it may be they will lose the support of the corporations, which have heretofore been to them an every-present help in time of trouble.

DEATH OF THE LEVELER

James Shirley (1596—1666), the author of this poem, of which the last two lines are very famous, was a contemporary of Shakespeare, whom, however, he surpassed by many years. Originally a schoolmaster, he became a dramatic writer and composed both tragedies and comedies which form a link between the Elizabethan plays and those which were produced after the Restoration. He wrote few poems, yet these few are characterized by forcible imagery and a vigorous, manly cast of thought.

BY JAMES SHIRLEY.
The glories of our blood and state
Are shadows, not substantial things;
There is no armor against fate;
Death lays his icy hand on kings:
Scepter and crown
Must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.
Some men with swords may reap the field,
And plant fresh laurels where they kill;
But their strong nerves at last must yield;
They tame but one another still:
Early or late
They stoop to fate,
And must give up their murmuring breath
When they, pale captives, creep
To death.
The garlands wither on your brow,
Then boast no more your mighty deeds:
Upon death's purple altar now
See where the victor victim bleeds:
Your heads must round
To the cold tomb:
Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in their dust.

Stretching It

An American visiting Durbin told some startling stories about the height of some of the New York buildings. An Irishman who was listening stood it as long as he could, and then queried: "Ye haven't seen our newest hotel; have ye?"

The American thought not. "Well," said the Irishman, "It's so tall that we had to put the two top stories on hinges."

"What for?" asked the American.

"So we could let 'em down till the moon went by," said Pat. —Exchange.

Commissioners Sale

Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of Pocahontas County, West Virginia entered on the 19th day of June 1906, in the Chancery causes of Paul Arbogast vs. N. B. Dove and Sallie A. Arbogast vs. N. B. Dove et al, the undersigned Special Commissioners, will on the 9th day of October, 1906, at the front door of the Court House, at Marlinton, n said County, proceed to sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder a certain tract or parcel of land, with valuable buildings thereon, lying on the head waters of Greenbrier river, where the public road crosses said river, being the same property occupied by N. B. Dove, and the tract contains—acres more or less. The title is good and the property valuable.

Terms of Sale:
Cash in hand sufficient to pay costs of suit and sale and for the residue a credit of six and twelve months will be given the purchaser, who is required to execute bonds with good personal security, falling due as aforesaid, and bearing interest from day of sale, and a lien will be retained as ultimate security.

N. C. McNEEL,
H. S. RUCKER,
Spec. Commrs.
Bonds has been executed by the foregoing Special Commissioners as required by said decree.

Testor: J. H. PATTERSON, Clerk

The Word Nice

"Nice" is the one of the exceptional words which have risen on the scale and improved with age. It is from the Latin "nescius" and originally signified ignorant. To Chaucer it regularly meant foolish—"wise and nothing nice." In Spenser's time it still meant effeminate. From general foolishness there was probably first a specialization to foolish fustian about trifles. Then the idea of ignorance dropped out, and the word meant particular about details, accurate. It was creditable to be a "nice" observer or to show "nice" judgement. And so in the end the positively agreeable meaning of to day was evolved.

\$50 Reward \$50

We will pay the above reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who tied our telephone wires together at a point one mile above Bartow, where the line goes through high cut, about June 25 and July 8.

ROSCOE WHITE & ELKINS
TELEPHONE CO.